

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 13, 2006

TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

FROM: Jackie W. Jones (202-205-3466, jackie.jones@usitc.gov)

Heidi Colby-Oizumi (202-205-3391, heidi.colby@usitc.gov) Program Managers for Commercial Availability Reviews

SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Men's Knit Sweaters of

Cotton/Cashmere Blended Yarn (Investigation No. 332-473-003)]

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the "commercial availability" provisions of the AGOA on a certain combed and ring-spun yarn of 92-percent cotton and 8-percent cashmere.¹ The yarn is classified in statistical reporting number 5205.42.00.20 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

The petition was filed by Shibani Inwear, Mauritius, and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on March 6, 2006. The petition alleges that the yarn cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-473, Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2006): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified fabrics, regardless of the source of the fabrics, should CITA determine that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to the USTR by April 17, 2006. Some or all of the confidential business information provided may be included in the reports that the Commission sends to the USTR. The Commission plans to publish a public version of each review

¹ The AGOA is the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the CBTPA is the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, and the ATPDEA is the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act.

shortly after a review is sent to the USTR. However, in the public version, the Commission will not publish confidential business information in a manner that would reveal the operations of the firm supplying the information.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3 copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by March 31, 2006. Information on procedures for submitting written statements, including confidential business information, to the Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which was published in the *Federal Register* of March 3, 2006 (71 F.R. 10992)] and posted on its website at

http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/332/332_465_institution01242005sgl.pdf.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Vincent DeSapio (202-205-3435); *vincent.desapio@usitc.gov*. Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Managers (see above) and from its website at

http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/pres_cong/332/short_supply/shortsupintro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/CA.htm.